



**Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Workforce Investment Board**

**Executive Director's Report
March 2, 2009**

On February 23rd and 24th the AWIB Business Meeting was held at Centennial Hall in Juneau. Feedback received from board members was that this was a very successful meeting. I appreciate all the time and effort board members devote to the work of the AWIB. I would like to thank my staff and all members of the Department of Labor who participated in making this meeting a success.

On February 23rd the agenda included a review of the 2007 Training Performance Report, Briefings on Service Delivery Programs from the Division of Business Partnerships, Employment Security Division, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and an update from the work of the Research and Analysis Section, a Workforce Development Budget Update, a legislative update, a presentation of the STEP Task Force Report, and a Tourism Industry Panel consisting of employers and associations identifying the workforce development needs from this industry. Time was also allocated for visits to the Legislature during the afternoon of February 23rd.

On February 24th the agenda included a report from Jim Lynch, Chair and Greg Cashen, Executive Director, committee meetings and reports, presentation of the AWIB Training Plan Template, proposed AWIB by-law revisions, an update on the AGIA Training Strategic Plan, an update on Registered Apprenticeship, a presentation on Centers of Excellence, and a briefing on Unemployment Insurance Employer Services. The board presented the Secondary Vocational Instructor of the Year to Brian Walsh, from the King Career Center and Postsecondary Vocational Administrator of the Year to Bret Helms, Joint Apprenticeship Training Center Director of the Plumbers and Pipefitters Training School in Fairbanks.

Two resolutions were passed by the AWIB. The board passed Resolution No. 09-01 in Support of the State Training and Employment Program (STEP) Task Force Report supporting the proposed recommendations contained in the STEP Task Force Report, including making the STEP permanent. Resolution No. 09-02 was passed by the board in Recognition of Commissioner Bishop and his staff from the Department of Labor and Workforce Development for the vision, guidance, and resources provided to the AWIB in support of the board's efforts to advance economic and workforce development efforts in Alaska. The proposed revision from the Executive Committee to Article IX of the AWIB by-laws was approved by the board to allow a member of the board to appoint a voting designee to serve on their behalf at one board meeting in a 12 month period.

Five new members recently appointed to the board were recognized at their first meeting in Juneau. The new AWIB members are Bonnie Jo Savland from Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, Joey Merrick from the Laborer's International Union of North America Local 341, Mike Woods from King Career Center, Michelle Zenger from Green's Creek/Hecla Mining Company, and Marcia Olson who will serve as Commissioner Ledoux's designee from the Department of Education and Early Development. In addition, I am very pleased to announce that Jeff Selvey will begin as the AWIB's new Education Specialist II effective July 1, 2009. The AWIB was instrumental in supporting the addition of this position to the board, and Jeff will be a great addition to our staff.

Former AWIB members Todd Bergman, Mayfield Evans, M.J. Longley, and John Palmatier were recognized by the board with Certificates of Recognition from Chair Lynch and Commissioner Bishop. The certificates will be presented to the former AWIB members over the next few weeks.

The AWIB approved the date and location of the next board meeting which will be held on May 28th and 29th at the Mat-Su Career and Technical High School in Wasilla. An agenda will be developed by the Executive Committee over the next month and forwarded to the full board once approved.

As a reminder, the 2009 APOC Financial Disclosure Forms are due from board members by March 15, 2009. A copy of the forms and instructions are located at <http://www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/ADMIN/apoc/filer.html>.

Committees

- The next Youth Council meeting is scheduled for March 4th at 10:00 a.m.
- The next Executive Committee meeting has tentatively been rescheduled to Thursday, March 19th at 9:30 a.m. at the request of the Chair.
- The next Policy Planning and Assessment and Evaluation Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26th at 10:00 a.m.
- The next Workforce Readiness and Employment Placement Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 2nd at 3:00 p.m.